



And Also With You

JUNE 2016

Grace Anglican Church 817 Estella Street Fairhope, Alabama 36532
251-929-1606 www.visitgrace.net Facebook/GraceAnglican

Spam Thinking

JUNE

SUNDAYS

10:00 am
Worship
(nursery provided)
6:30 pm
The Union's
Worship Service

MONDAYS

10:45 AM
INTERCESSORS
706-897-6381
6:30pm-Graham
Cooke Group-
Information: 455-
5940

WEDNESDAYS

10:30 am
Women's Bible
Study-Information:
990.2973

FRIDAYS

8:15 am
Men's Group-
Information:
751-5266

CHALICE BEARERS

June 5
Jane and Bob
Grafe

June 12
Becky Johnson
Jan Bogue

June 19
Maggie Rockett
Susan Jones

June 26
Kitty Barksdale
Janic Terry



The Rev. M. Scott Davis

2 Corinthians 10:5 says, "We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of*

Christ." Early in my Christian life I embraced the discipline of taking thoughts captive unto the obedience of Christ. This, of course, was seldom easy and I was not always successful, lassoing the myriad of thoughts that passed through my mind daily.

As I have grown in Christ, He has given me permission to process and consider ideas and concepts that I might not have allowed myself the freedom to do earlier in life. At times I would step outside the boundaries of good, safe, Biblical thinking. When this happened I would *usually* move back towards to the cross, finding my center in Jesus.

Recently the Lord told me that it was time to focus solely on the center again—Jesus. Because I am an oldest child and because of my role as pastor/priest, I had begun to believe the lie that I would be irresponsible to not process each and every thought that crossed the threshold of my mind. I would reason that it would be irresponsible not to at least try to find solutions to each and every care that lumbered across my thought life.



The Lord used the concept of emails as a parable to remind me to take captive every thought. I average sixty five emails a day—fifty are spam and fifteen in my inbox. The Spirit said, "How wise would it be to open, ponder, process, and reply to every email that arrives on a given day? It would take half the morning just to go through the spam. It would be foolish to carefully read, process, and reply to each piece of spam or advertisement. The Lord showed me that I was being wiser about managing my emails than I was about my thoughts. Each day I took most emails captive and did it quickly so why not do the same with my thoughts as well?

Each morning I review my spam folder and scan the subject line so that nothing important has mistakenly ended up there. I then delete the spam with the click of a button. It takes forty five seconds to process the spam. I then go to the inbox and scan the senders, deleting car dealership ads, life insurance ads, and invitations to meet Russian women. That takes another thirty seconds and finally I have the gold. There are usually five or six emails out of sixty five that are important. The rest are spam. The same is true with our thinking.

Researchers believe that the average human being has between fifty to seventy thousand thoughts per day. I wonder what percentage are spam? The Lord helped me realize that I do not need to process every thought that crosses my mind. I am not being irresponsible by not

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